

# Isaiah 56:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

## Analysis

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Blessing comes to the one who 'doeth this' - keeping sabbath and keeping hands from evil. The Hebrew 'chazeq' (holds fast) suggests determined commitment. Sabbath-keeping becomes a test case for covenant loyalty, representing trust in God's provision rather than anxious self-reliance.

## Historical Context

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Sabbath observance was intensified during and after exile as a distinctive identity marker. It symbolized trust in God and separation from pagan cultures that knew no sabbath.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does sabbath-keeping express trust in God's provision?
2. What does 'holding fast' to covenant commitments look like in your life?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲשֶׁר יֵ	אָנוֹשׁ	מַעַשׂ	זֶה אֵת	וּבֶן	אָדָם	יָדוּ יִקַּח
Blessed	H376	from doing	H2063	this and the son	of man	that layeth hold
H835		H6213		H1121	H120	H2388
הָ	וְשָׁמְרָה	שַׁבָּת	מִמְלִלָּה	וְשָׁמְרָה	יָדוּ	
H0	it and keepeth	the sabbath	from polluting	it and keepeth	his hand	
	H8104	H7676	H2490	H8104	H3027	
מַעַשׂ	כָּל	רָע:				
from doing	H3605	any evil				
H6213		H7451				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 58:13** (Parallel theme): If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

**Psalms 112:1** (Blessing): Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

**Ezekiel 20:12** (Parallel theme): Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

**Exodus 20:10** (Parallel theme): But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

**Luke 11:28** (Blessing): But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

**Ezekiel 20:20** (Parallel theme): And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

**Psalms 106:3** (Blessing): Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.

**John 13:17** (Parallel theme): If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

**Psalms 119:101** (Evil): I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

**Proverbs 16:17** (Evil): The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

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